

MORE INFO

- [Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- [City of Abilene Environmental Recycling Center](#)
- [City of Abilene - Waste Disposal Information](#)
- [Texas 8-1-1 Call Before You Dig](#)
- [Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#)
- [National Municipal Stormwater Alliance](#)
- [National Assoc. of Clean Water Agencies](#)



CONTACT US



Hotline

325) - 437-4937

stormwateradmin@abilenetx.gov



555 Walnut Street, Ste 207

PO Box 60

Abilene, Tx 79604



www.abilenestormwater.com



SWIMMING POOL WATER DISPOSAL

Save Our Waterways
Clean Water, Healthy Life

Stormwater Services Division

SIMPLE OPTIONS

There are 3 options for draining your swimming pool. Whichever method you choose, you must **dechlorinate** the water before you drain. Here's how:

- Dechlorinate naturally: allow the water to sit in the sun for 5 to 10 days without adding any chemicals (chlorine) to the water; or
- Use a chemical dechlorination additive.

Verify water is dechlorinated with a pool testing kit.

OPTION 1: YOUR LAWN

Drain **dechlorinated** water to a vegetated area (i.e. grass lawn, garden, etc.) or any area on your property that will allow the water to percolate into the ground if, **and only if...**

- You do not cause flooding of your neighbor's property or any other adjacent property.
- The land area is sufficient to prevent erosion and runoff into a ditch, creek, or other conveyance (i.e. storm drain).
- You do not cause harm to the environment.

This water can be used to irrigate plants, saturate dry ground, or soak into mulched areas.

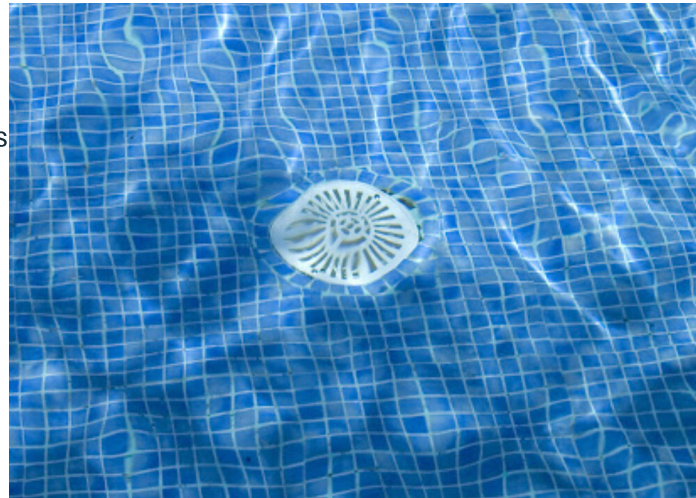
OPTION 2: SEWER

Drain your pool to the sewer. Most inground pools have a drain line connected to the sanitary sewer that can be used once the water has been **dechlorinated**.

- Locate the sanitary sewer cleanout on your property or an indoor drain such as a sink or bathtub.
- Using a hose, connect a siphon or sump pump that pumps no more than 20 GPM.
- Pump the water from the pool or spa to the cleanout or indoor drain..

TIPS TO HELP...

1. Have a water disposal plan to avoid fines and environmental damage.
2. Allow Pool Chemicals to Dissipate.
3. Use a chlorine neutralizer to speed up the process if you need to make urgent repairs.
4. Turn off automatic timers prior to draining.
5. Wait for the Right Weather - outdoor temps should be 85 degrees F or lower to avoid damage.
6. Have your repair supplies ready.
7. Don't drain in the rain.
8. Dispose of water correctly.
9. Direct the drained water downhill.
- 10 Never use the pool pump to drain the pool.
- 11 Contact the City of Abilene's Stormwater Services Division for ordinances and requirements before draining your pool.



OPTION 3: STORM DRAIN

Swimming pool/spa water may be discharged to the storm drain only after all of the following conditions are met:

- Other disposal methods (i.e. sanitary sewer or landscape draining) are not possible
- The pool/spa is completely dechlorinated.
- The pH of the water is between 6 and 9.
- There is no discharge of filter media or filter backwash.
- There is no discharge of acid cleaning wastes.
- Discharge water will not pond on or flow to neighboring properties.

FILTER BACKWASH

NEVER discharge filter backwash to the storm drain system (road, alleys, etc.). It is a violation of City of Abilene Ordinances. This practice is illegal and could result in fines.

- Filter backwash must be collected, contained and discharged to the sanitary sewer.
- Cartridge filters should be rinsed in a sink, bathtub, or over a lawn or other vegetated area.
- Use a hose, connect a siphon or sump pump that pumps 20 gallons or less per minute

DO NOT drain swimming pool or spa water to your SEPTIC SYTEM as it may cause system failure.

If you have questions regarding discharging to the sewer system contact the City of Abilene Water Utilities Department at 325-676-6000 for more information.